

# FUNKY FRAMES

#NBMAAatHome

Inspired by the gilded frames found throughout the Museum's galleries, construct special a frame to hold and surround a work of art or photograph in your home. Once you finish your frame, grab some family members and play our Freeze Frames acting game!



**1. In the photo of NBMAA's Warrington Gallery, look closely at the picture frames with a family member and ask each other these questions:**

- What is the purpose of a frame on a work of art? Is it to protect or to enhance the work of art or both?
- Do all paintings have frames? Why or why not?
- How do you think frames are made?
- How does someone choose the right frame for a work of art?
- Can a frame detract from the work of art or, in other words, take away from its appearance and value? If yes, then how so?

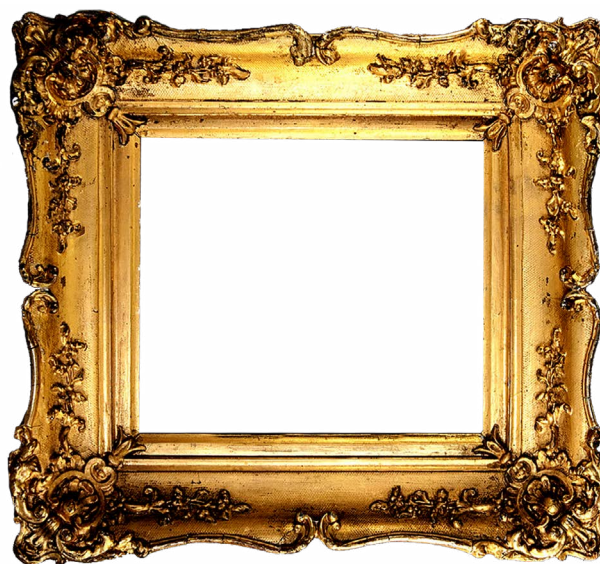


Image of Elise Holmes Warrington Gallery at the New Britain Museum of American Art, Image Courtesy of the New Britain Museum of American Art.

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## 2. Collect your materials

\*This is a suggested list only, you can use whichever objects and materials you have available to you for this project!

- Cardboard or lightweight cardboard
- Markers, crayons, colored pencils, or paint
- String, to hang the frame
- Glue
- Tape
- Ruler
- Scissors
- Glitter
- Craft foam
- Felt materials
- Sequins or buttons
- Twigs and sticks from outside
- Pasta noodles

## 3. Ask yourself these questions before you start your artwork:

- What artwork or photo do I want inside my frame?
- What frame design would complement my artwork or photo?
- What size and shape does my frame need to be to fit around the artwork or photo?
- Do I want to hang my frame on the wall or stand it up on a table?

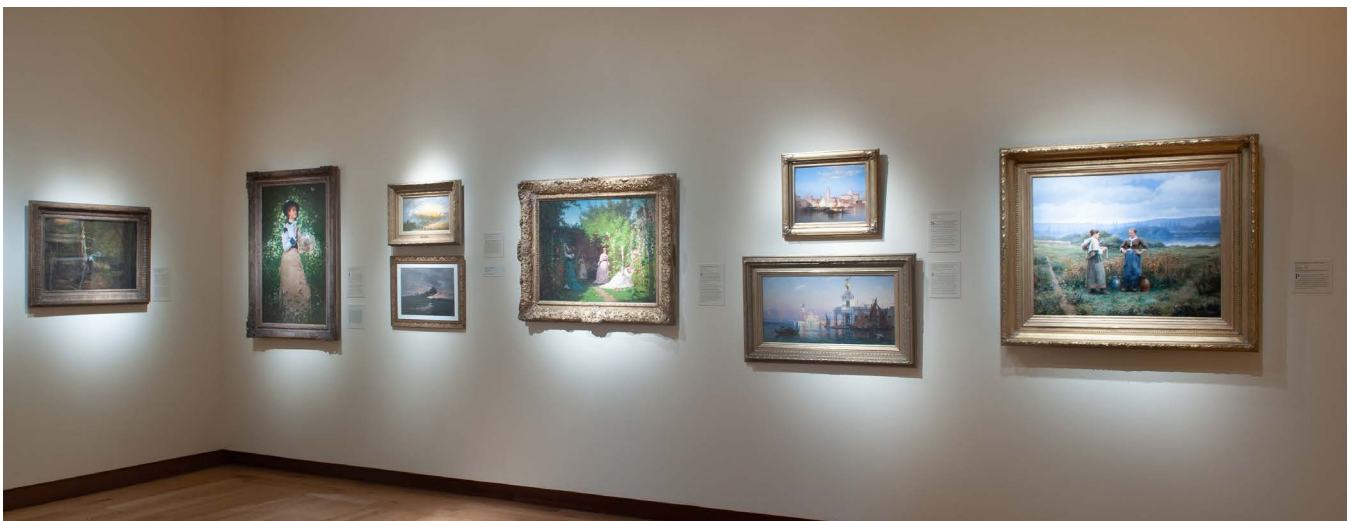
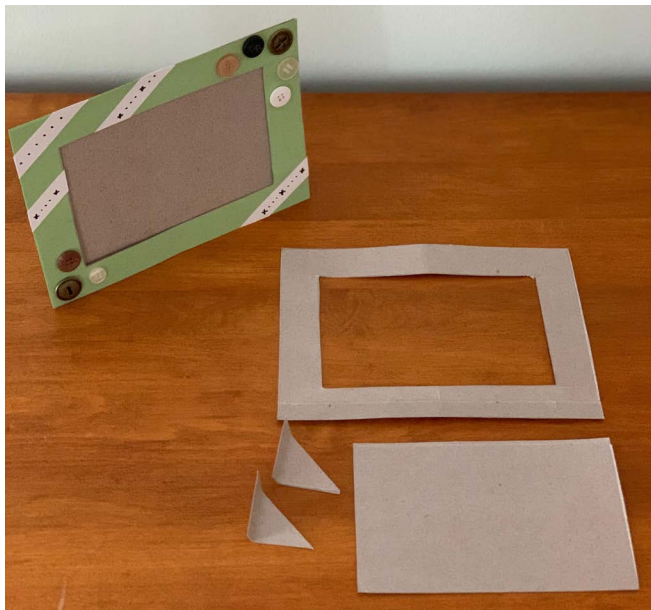


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Our frame, picture base, and triangular stands were cut from a cardboard cereal box.

#### 4. Start creating! Play around with different arrangements before gluing down your final composition.

- Trace the artwork or photo on the cardboard, adding another inch or more to each side so the frame is thick enough
- To make a window for your frame, trace your artwork or photo in the center of your frame tracing
- To cut out the window of your frame, cut on the inside of the line you traced to make sure the window is slightly smaller than the artwork or photo
- Color or paint your frame and glue on embellishments, like sequins or craft foam
- Create a base out of cardboard for the back of your frame by measuring the length and width of your artwork or photo and adding an additional half inch to each side
- Place the picture inside the frame and tape or glue the cardboard base to the back to keep the photo in place
- To hang your frame, glue or tape the ends of a string to the each of the top corners on the back of the frame
- To stand your frame up, cut two equal triangles out of cardboard or foam and glue one edge of each triangle to the bottom right and left side of the back of the frame

#### 5. Take a picture of your creation and share it with the Museum using #NBMAAatHome

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**Take some time to play!**

## **FREEZE FRAMES**

Requires 2 or more players!

In this game, one person is the designated “Freeze Frame” Caller while the other players are the Actors. The Actors begin dancing around the room. When the Caller yells “Freeze Frame!” the Actors must immediately freeze and, when called upon, must explain the position they are in by acting it out. For example, if an Actor has frozen with their arms straight up, they might act out riding on a fast roller coaster! Actors must think quickly and convince the Caller of why they are in this position. If the Caller is not convinced, they will ask the Actor to sit out until the next game. Then the next round with the remaining Actors begins. This repeats until there is only one Actor left—the Winner!

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